

**PERIPHERAL INTERFACE SYSTEM HAVING DEDICATED
COMMUNICATION CHANNELS**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A peripheral interface device that is adaptable into a computer system and which provides a communication interface for a plurality of external devices. The peripheral interface device comprises: a plurality of transfer control logic (TCL) modules, wherein each TCL module provides a dedicated interface for an associated one of the external devices, and wherein multiple TCL modules can communicate in parallel with their associated external devices; and a dual port memory (DPM) device that is in communication with an input/output bus of the computer system, wherein the DPM device can selectively communicate with each of the plurality of TCL modules.